**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** Through the death and Resurrection of his Son, God our Father has shown his immense love for us, and so with confidence we turn to the Lord in prayer.

1. With Pope Francis, we pray that the use of new technologies will respect the dignity of the person and human relationships and will help us face the crises of our times. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For all who seek the waters of baptism at Easter. May God’s grace guide them into the light of Christ. **Lord, hear us.**
3. We pray for a renewed appreciation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation: rejoicing in the mercy and forgiveness of God, there is ‘*no need to recall the past’*, or ‘*think about what was done before’*. **Lord, hear us.**
4. We pray for ourselves: in the coming week may we serve others in our work and find peace when we rest. **Lord, hear us.**
5. We pray for an end to violence and warfare so that the challenging work of peace and rebuilding may begin. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For the times we have been quick to judge, criticise, ridicule or ‘*condemn’*; bless us with the eyes of grace, that we may see others as you see them and show mercy, compassion and understanding. **Lord, hear us.**
7. For those held captive because of crime, drugs, alcohol, domestic violence, trafficking, or abuse - through understanding, education and courage, deliver them ‘*from bondage’*. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For an enduring sense of awe at ‘*the marvels the Lord has worked for us’*; may we lift our hearts and voices in praise and gratitude to God. **Lord, hear us.**
9. For those who have died; may they gain the ‘*prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus’*. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God of mercy and compassion, you give new heart to your people: hear the prayers we make ‘through faith’, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**